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NORTH CAROLINA

Farm Report

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RALEIGH, N. C.

OCTOBER 15, 1949

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OCTOBER 1, 1949 GENERAL FARM REPORT

TOBACCO PROSPECTS DECLINE

Prospects for North Carolina's 1949 flue-cured tobacco crop declined slightly during the month of September. The October 1 forecast of production of flue-cured types is 743,775,000 pounds, compared with the September 1 estimate of 746,900,000 pounds. Such a production would be a little more than 4 million pounds above the 1948 crop and about 70 million pounds above the 10-year average production. Production of Type 11 tobacco is estimated to be about 5 percent under production from the 1948 acreage and is the only flue-cured type for which the production estimate is below that of last year

(Continued on Page 2)

RECORD CORN CROP INDICATED

Total production of corn in North Carolina, as indicated from growers' reports of condition and expected yields on October 1, is estimated at 71,247,000 bushels. This represents no change from the estimate for September 1, but does point to a crop 3.2 percent greater than the 69,006,000 bushels produced last year. Provided harvest weather conditions are favorable enough to permit the housing of production indicated, this year's corn crop will be the largest of record.

As of October 1, prospects are for a record yield of 33 bushels per acre from corn grown in this State.

(Continued on Page 2)

GENERAL SITUATION

Weather conditions during the early part of September continued generally unfavorable for most fall farming activities. Frequent rains kept soils too wet for working and delayed harvesting of fall maturing crops. However, during the last two weeks of the month, weather was quite favorable and fall farming activities were getting back to normal. The month ended with soils in most areas in good condition to work. Heavy to killing frosts were reported in some mountain areas the last week of the month. Fall planting of small grains and winter cover crops is now moving forward rapidly. Cotton har-

(Continued on Page 2)

KEY TO LOCATION OF MAJOR FAIR BUILDINGS



- | | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. FAIR SECRETARY'S OFFICE | 6. AUTOMOBILE ENTRANCES | 11. FARM MACHINERY | 16. INDUSTRIAL BUILDING | 21. MIDWAY-SHOWS |
| 2. RED CROSS | 7. LIVESTOCK JUDGING | 12. SWINE BARN | 17. RACE TRACK | 22. U. S. HIGHWAY # 1 |
| 3. LADIES' TOILETS | 8. PARKING AREAS | 13. CATTLE BARN | 18. GRANDSTAND | 23. MAIN AUTO ENTRANCE |
| 4. MEN'S TOILETS | 9. MAIN PEDESTRIANS' CONCOURSE | 14. HORSE BARN | 19. BLEACHERS | 24. HIGHWAY SHOPS |
| 5. PEDESTRIAN'S GATES | 10. MAIN EXHIBIT BUILDINGS | 15. POULTRY BUILDING | 20. ENTRANCE TO GRANDSTAND | 25. WATERFALL |

GENERAL SITUATION (Continued)

vesting is well advanced in most producing areas. Peanut digging is general with favorable weather permitting almost uninterrupted operations. Most farmers have completed their 1949 haying operations with record or near record yields being realized. The warm sunny weather the last two weeks of the month brought corn to the harvesting stage rapidly. The outlook for the corn crop is very good, being quite uniform throughout the State. Harvesting is underway in all areas, but farmers will not give major attention to this crop until their tobacco, cotton, peanut and hay crops have been taken care of.

CORN (Continued)

This is 2 bushels above the 1948 yield and 10 bushels above the 1938-47 average. The higher yield indicated for this year can be attributed to (1) a generally favorable growing season, (2) increased use of hybrid varieties with about one-third of our 1949 acreage being planted with hybrids, (3) better soil fertilization practices and (4) a better understanding of cultivation requirements for corn.

In spite of the 3.1 percent decline in corn acreage for harvest this year as compared with last year, higher yields are the reason for the record production indicated from the 2,159,000 acres for harvest.

TOBACCO (Continued)

While such a crop would be 5 percent less than last year, it would still be 7 percent above the 10-year average production of this type. The October 1 forecast of production of Type 11 tobacco is 263,375,000 pounds. Yield per acre is now placed at 1,075 pounds, compared with the September 1 estimate of 1,100 pounds and the average from the 1948 crop of 1,190 pounds.

The October 1 forecast for Type 12 tobacco was placed at 384,480,000 pounds unchanged from September 1 3 percent above the 1948 crop and 11 percent greater than the 10-year average production of this type of tobacco. Type 12 yield is still forecast at 1,240 pounds per acre, compared with the average of 1,285 pounds obtained last year and the 1,067-pound 10-year average.

The production forecast for Type 13 tobacco increased about 3 million pounds during the month. This is 7 percent greater than production last year and 19 percent above the 10-year average production. Marketings of this type tobacco was nearly 100 percent completed the first of October.

SOYBEAN YIELDS DROP

Production prospects of soybeans for beans in North Carolina declined from earlier expectations during the month of September. Reports from farmers as of October 1 indicate a production of 3,484,000 bushels from this year's crop, or an average yield of 13.0 bushels per acre from the 268,000 (equivalent solid) acres now estimated for the state. This estimate is 1 bushel per acre lower than a month earlier. As the crop approaches maturity, farmers are doubtful that the crop will produce as well as was indicated earlier by heavy vine growth.

In 1948, there were 264,000 acres harvested in the state which produced 3,564,000 bushels for an average yield of 13.5 bushels.

SWEET POTATO PROSPECTS DECLINE

Based on farmers' reports on the condition and prospective yield of sweetpotatoes as of October 1, the production outlook declined sharply from that of a month earlier. The prospective crop is now indicated at 5,994,000 bushels, which would be 6 percent above the 5,635,000 bushels produced last year but 22 percent below the 1938-47 average.

A per acre yield of 111 bushels is now indicated, which is 4 bushels under the 1948 yield but is 9 bushels above the 1938-47 average.

Acreage for harvest this year is estimated at 54,000 acres--10 percent more than the 49,000 acres harvested in 1948. However, the acreage for this year is 26 percent less than the 1938-47 average.

COTTON PROSPECTS DECLINE

Prospects for North Carolina's cotton crop dropped sharply during the month, with October 1 forecast placing production at 470,000 bales (500-lb. gross weight). This is 70,000 bales below the September 1 estimate and 208,000 bales below the 1948 production of 678,000 bales. The 10-year average production for the State is 549,000 bales.

If this production is realized, the average yield per acre will be 277 pounds of lint--the lowest since 1938. The average yield per acre last year was 447 pounds and the 10-year average yield is 355 pounds.

Weather continued cloudy and wet through the first two weeks of September. Heavy rains were general over the State during the first week. However, weather began to open up

the third week of the month with the last week being almost ideal for the maturity of bolls and picking operations. The 1949 cotton crop has opened slowly and unevenly in most areas. As the crop matured and picking advanced, it became quite evident that the boll weevil, weather and other unfavorable factors had taken a much larger toll of the crop than earlier expected.

For the Nation as a whole, the crop prospects increased over last month's forecast and last year's total production. September 1 estimate of the crop was 14,943,000 bales, while the current forecast is 15,446,000 bales. The October 1 estimated crop is approximately 4 percent greater than the 1948 production. Details, by States, of the October 1 report follow:

COTTON: CONDITION, ESTIMATED ACREAGE FOR HARVEST AND PRODUCTION, OCTOBER 1, 1949, ALL STATES

STATE	ACREAGE FOR HARVEST 1949	OCT. 1 CONDITION			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION (500# BALES)			GINNINGS TO OCT. 1 1949
		AVER-AGE 1938-1947	1948 CROP	1949	AVER-AGE 1938-1947	1948	INDI-CATED 1949	AVER-AGE 1938-1947	1948 CROP	1949 CROP INDICATED OCT. 1	
	(000)	(PERCENT)			(POUNDS)			(000) BALES			THOUS. BALES
N. C....	813	74	93	59	355	447	277	549	678	470	84
MO.....	536	79	89	84	451	460	412	356	506	460	124
VA.....	32	-	-	-	348	447	315	22	24	21	-
S. C....	1,203	70	88	50	309	372	219	716	871	550	238
GA.....	1,455	68	81	54	235	279	208	779	745	630	299
FLA.....	44	-	-	-	164	289	185	14	15	17	9
TENN....	804	76	85	74	368	417	376	523	670	630	199
ALA....	1,755	70	88	56	262	353	237	901	1,197	865	398
MISS....	2,726	70	93	55	318	441	257	1,588	2,353	1,460	659
ARK....	2,384	72	88	67	334	428	336	1,329	1,982	1,670	609
LA.....	1,038	66	89	72	261	382	291	528	756	630	350
OKLA....	1,158	63	67	80	163	175	199	521	374	480	72
TEXAS...	10,296	68	67	93	170	176	256	2,722	3,150	5,500	2,088
N. MEX...	312	85	95	82	497	542	440	119	236	286	21
ARIZONA..	375	86	94	98	423	558	589	174	328	460	69
CALIF....	957	92	87	91	602	576	652	447	968	1,300	87
OTHER STATES...	19	-	-	-	413	432	422	16	15	17	4
U. S.....	25,907	71	82	74	254.0	313.1	286.2	11,306	14,868	15,446	5,309

EGG PRODUCTION INCREASES

Production of eggs on North Carolina farms in September is estimated at 63 million - 9 percent more than the 58 million eggs produced during the corresponding period last year, but 10 percent less than production for the previous month which amounted to 70 million eggs.

The number of layers on North Carolina farms in September showed an increase of 533,000 layers above the 6,472,000 layers reported on farms in August. This compares with an estimated 6,352,000 layers on farms during September of 1948.

The number of eggs produced per 100 layers in September is estimated at 900, a drop of 176 eggs per 100 layers below the rate of lay reported for August, but approximately the same as the 906 eggs per 100 layers reported for September of last year.

SEASONAL DECREASE IN MILK PRODUCTION

Milk cows on North Carolina farms produced an estimated 136 million pounds of milk during September. This is two million pounds less than September of 1948 but 11 million pounds more than the 10-year (1938-47) September average. Production during September of this year was 14 million pounds less than August.

Milk production per cow in herds is estimated at 380 pounds during September, as compared with 420 pounds in August and 390 pounds during September of last year. The number of milk cows on farms as of October 1 is estimated at 359,000.

Generally conditions were favorable during September for milk production. The decrease in milk production during September is primarily attributed to: (1) the normal decrease in the flow of milk from cows freshened in the spring;

(2) generally less feed value received from pastures following summer months, even though pastures may be in relatively good condition at this time; and (3) the failure on the part of most farmers to adopt the practice of breeding milk producers for fall freshening and thereby exercising some management control over the usual seasonal production of milk.

COMMERCIAL APPLE CROP IMPROVES

Apples: Reports from commercial apple growers as of October 1 indicate a slightly larger crop than a month earlier. The October 1 forecast is for a commercial apple crop of 480,000 bushels, 51 percent less than the 1948 crop and 38 percent under the 10-year average. Harvesting of the commercial apple crop is well advanced in most commercial counties.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES

ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION OF CROPS 1948 AND INDICATED OCTOBER 1, 1949

CROPS	UNIT	ACREAGE			YIELD			PRODUCTION		
		AVERAGE 1938-47#	HARVESTED 1948	INDICATED 1949	AVERAGE 1938-47	1948	INDICATED 1949	AVERAGE 1938-47	REVISED 1948	INDICATED 1949
- THOUSAND -										
CORN, ALL.....	BU.	2,320	2,226	2,159	23.0	31.0	33.0	53,124	69,006	71,247
WHEAT, ALL.....	BU.	459	390	445	14.8	15.5	13.0	6,805	6,045	5,785
OATS.....	BU.	305	270	405	26.6	29.5	30.0	8,226	7,965	12,150
BARLEY.....	BU.	32	34	36	23.7	23.5	26.0	764	799	936
RYE.....	BU.	40	22	21	10.8	12.5	-	407	275	
TOBACCO, ALL.....	LBS.	663	604	641	1,025.0	1,252.0	1,187	685,066	756,884	760,825
TYPE 11.....	LBS.	256	233	245	954.0	1,190.0	1,075	246,663	277,270	263,375
TYPE 12.....	LBS.	323	290	310	1,067.0	1,285.0	1,240	346,606	372,650	384,400
TYPE 13.....	LBS.	75	71	75	1,058.0	1,260.0	1,280	80,446	89,460	96,000
TYPE 31.....	LBS.	9	10	11	1,240.0	1,680.0	1,550	11,351	17,304	17,050
COTTON.....	LBS.	756	730	811	355	447	-	549*	678	-
IRISH POTATOES, ALL.....	BU.	83	71	62	110.0	148.0	127	9,128	10,508	7,874
SWEETPOTATOES.....	BU.	73	49	54	106.0	115.0	111	7,714	5,635	5,994
SOYBEANS, FOR BEANS.....	BU.	212	264	268	11.8	13.5	13.0	2,505	3,564	3,484
SOYBEANS, GROWN ALONE.....	BU.	376	384	353	-	-	-	-	-	-
COWPEAS, GROWN ALONE.....	BU.	132	55	55	-	-	-	-	-	-
PEANUTS, GROWN ALONE.....	LBS.	291	314	254	-	-	-	-	-	-
PEANUTS, INTERPLANTED.....	LBS.	3	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
PEANUTS, PICKED AND THRESHED.....	LBS.	274	295	242	1,124.0	1,175.0	1,100.0	305,596	346,625	266,200
HAY, ALL.....	TONS	1,215	1,230	1,179	.99	1.04	1.14	1,201	1,284	1,344
CLOVER & TIMOTHY.....	TONS	75	86	85	1.13	1.10	-	85	95	-
ALFALFA HAY.....	TONS	11	39	51	2.06	2.35	2.50	23	92	128
LESPEDEZA HAY.....	TONS	437	503	493	1.09	1.10	1.20	476	553	592
PASTURE CONDITION.....	%	-	-	-	84	85	-	-	-	-
PEACHES, ALL.....	BU.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,220	1,646	1,428
APPLES, COMMERCIAL.....	BU.	-	-	-	-	-	-	958	976	480
PEARS.....	BU.	-	-	-	-	-	-	301	209	130
GRAPES.....	TONS	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.1	5.6	4.3
SORGHUMS, FOR GRAINS.....	BU.	-	21	17	-	22.0	25.0	-	462	425
PECANS, ALL.....	LBS.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,507	2,752	2,365
UNITED STATES										
CORN, ALL.....	BU.	88,617	85,439	85,780	31.4	42.7	40.5	2,787,628	3,650,548	3,476,986
WHEAT, ALL.....	BU.	59,854	71,904	75,481	16.6	17.9	14.9	991,950	1,288,406	1,126,226
OATS.....	BU.	38,347	40,191	40,619	32.1	37.1	32.5	1,234,082	1,491,752	1,321,075
BARLEY.....	BU.	12,720	12,046	10,019	24.0	26.3	23.4	304,741	317,037	234,025
RYE.....	BU.	2,874	2,097	1,586	12.1	12.6	11.9	35,109	26,388	18,831
TOBACCO, ALL.....	LBS.	1,654	1,555	1,626	1,033	1,275	1,233	1,718,375	1,981,730	2,004,214
TOBACCO, FLUE-CURED.....	LBS.	971	883	941	1,011	1,233	1,200	989,925	1,089,584	1,130,030
COTTON.....	LBS.	22,015	23,110	26,380	-	-	286.2	-	-	15,436
IRISH POTATOES, ALL.....	BU.	2,730	2,099	1,898	145.5	212.4	199.6	393,403	445,850	378,805
SWEETPOTATOES.....	BU.	711	514	524	89.7	96.9	99.0	63,626	49,806	51,850
SOYBEANS, FOR BEANS.....	BU.	8,025	10,311	9,686	18.7	21.4	21.8	148,381	220,201	211,198
COWPEAS, ALONE.....	BU.	2,459	1,115	1,110	-	-	-	-	-	-
PEANUTS, PICKED & THRESHED.....	LBS.	2,718	3,311	2,545	692	706	709	1,845,718	2,338,470	1,804,454
HAY, ALL.....	TONS	73,966	73,616	73,360	1.34	1.36	1.35	99,539	99,846	99,119
ALFALFA.....	TONS	14,731	15,014	16,719	2.18	2.27	2.26	32,217	34,083	37,725
CLOVER & TIMOTHY.....	TONS	21,607	21,995	20,290	1.36	1.33	-	29,575	29,309	-
PASTURE CONDITION.....	%	-	-	-	75	78	-	-	-	-
PEACHES.....	BU.	-	-	-	-	-	-	68,947	65,352	75,114
APPLES, COMMERCIAL.....	BU.	-	-	-	-	-	-	111,114	88,407	132,126
PEARS.....	BU.	-	-	-	-	-	-	30,832	26,334	35,936
GRAPES.....	TONS	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,736	3,044	2,941
SORGHUMS, FOR GRAIN.....	BU.	6,292	7,298	6,020	16.0	18.6	21.6	102,398	131,644	129,900
PECANS, ALL	LBS.	-	-	-	-	-	-	110,620	177,667	141,251

* Includes Government purchases from unharvested acres in 1947
500 lb. gross wt. bales.

FARM REPORT

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OCTOBER 1949

FARM REPORT

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PEANUT PROSPECTS UNCHANGED

Prospective production of peanuts as of October 1 in North Carolina showed no change from that of a month earlier. The crop is currently expected to produce 266,200,000 pounds for an average yield of 1,100 pounds per acre. This year's acreage of the crop is estimated at 242,000 acres. In 1948, the state produced 346,625,000 pounds from 295,000 acres for an average yield of 1,175 pounds per acre. Average production for the 10-year period, 1938-47, is 305,596,000 pounds.

Digging of the commercial crop in the state progressed rapidly during the first two weeks of October. Generally, soil and weather conditions were ideal.

Total peanut production in the United States this year is estimated at 1,804,454,000 pounds as of October 1. This compares with last year's production of 2,338,470,000 pounds and the 10-year average of 1,845,718,000 pounds.

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER INCREASES

Commerical slaughter of livestock in North Carolina, including slaughter under Federal inspection and other wholesale and retail slaughter, but excluding farm slaughter, increased during August for all species except sheep and lambs. With the exception of hogs, the number of head slaughtered was below August of 1948. The number of head slaughtered and the total liveweight of animals slaughtered is less during the eight months January through August of this year than last year for all species. On a percentage basis, hogs decreased the least and calves decreased the most through August of 1949 compared with the same period in 1948.

NORTH CAROLINA LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

SPECIES	AUGUST				JANUARY-AUGUST TOTAL			
	NUMBER SLAUGHTERED		TOTAL LIVEWEIGHT		NUMBER SLAUGHTERED		TOTAL LIVEWEIGHT	
	1948	1949	1948	1949	1948	1949	1948	1949
CATTLE.....	9.5	7.5	7,221	6,198	78.7	50.6	60,012	41,303
CALVES.....	10.0	5.7	1,871	926	93.1	53.9	14,125	8,756
SHEEP & LAMBS.....	.3	.4	29	31	2.8	1.9	246	159
HOGS.....	22.0	27.0	5,060	5,645	224.0	210.0	48,942	46,669

SEPTEMBER WEATHER SUMMARY

In keeping with the Calendar, the weather during September was typical of the fall season. Cool Canadian air masses were able to invade the State with vigor frequently. Several times during the month the temperatures dropped to the 30's in the mountains and into the 40's elsewhere. The first killing frost of the season occurred in the mountains on the 29th and 30th. Temperatures for the month averaged a few degrees below normal in the West to about normal near the coast. Total precipitation was less than normal except in the southern and central Coastal Plains, which were drenched with heavy rains during the first half of the month. Final two weeks of the month were dry with only scattered light rains reported. No serious drought conditions were indicated, in fact, the dry weather was almost ideal for harvesting of crops and permitted the completion of much delayed farm work.

NORTH CAROLINA INCHES OF RAINFALL DURING SEPTEMBER, 1949

